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MEDIA RELEASE
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NEW ENGLAND ORGANIZED CRIME
DRUG ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE ("OCDETF")

ADDITIONAL CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCINGS IN DRUG TRAFFICKING AND
MONEY LAUNDERING CONSPIRACY PROSECUTION INVOLVING BELMONT,
NH-BASED OXYCODONE DISTRIBUTION RING

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: First Assistant United States Attorney Joseph Laplante, June W. Stansbury, Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration's Boston Field Office, Douglas A. Bricker, Special Agent in Charge of the Boston Field Office of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigations Unit, and George Festa, the Director of the New England High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force (New England HIDTA), announce several convictions and sentencings from among the 24 individuals from New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Florida, and Nevada facing federal conspiracy charges arising from a multi-agency investigation conducted under the auspices of the New England Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force ("OCDETF").

A Criminal Complaint and arrest warrants issued on June 17, 2005, charged 24 individuals with conspiracy to distribute controlled substances (oxycodone) in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 846, and conspiracy to commit money laundering in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h). An affidavit submitted by DEA Special Agent Todd Prough in support of the complaint alleged that Randall NOE, of Belmont, NH, unlawfully obtained hundreds of oxycodone tablets each week for several years, and distributed them to lower level oxycodone distributors in New England. The affidavit alleges that NOE utilized several methods of unlawfully obtaining the oxycodone, including organizing Boston, Massachusetts-to-West Palm Beach, Florida "shuttles" for oxycodone couriers who would periodically fly to Florida together, visit the same physician to obtain large oxycodone prescriptions, and then fill the prescriptions and turn the tablets over to NOE for distribution and resale to lower-level traffickers. NOE also utilized private parcel couriers to exchange large quantities of cash, in amounts ranging from \$4,000 to \$78,000, for 500-plus tablet quantities of oxycodone supplied by alleged co-conspirator Victor MENDES, of Margate, Florida. According to the affidavit, NOE and his co-conspirators expended vast sums

of cash and laundered their allegedly ill-gotten funds by gambling at Las Vegas casinos and at the former Lakes Region Greyhound Park, at which NOE is alleged to have engaged in drug transactions with an undercover DEA Task Force agent in 2005.

The arrests were the result of a two-year investigation conducted by the DEA, IRS, and the U.S. Attorney's Office, assisted by Trial Attorney Marty Woelfle of the Department of Justice's Organized Crime and Racketeering Section in Washington, D.C.

During the investigation, which included a court-authorized wiretap of two cell phones utilized by NOE to oversee the alleged conspiracy, DEA agents made undercover drug purchases from NOE, Mitchell KRASCO, Stacey MELLOR, and Joseph SILVA, and executed search warrants and civil seizure warrants in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Nevada, and Florida, seizing over 500 oxycodone tablets and thousands of dollars in cash. The Asset Forfeiture Section of the U.S. Attorney's Office has initiated forfeiture proceedings against NOE's residence, 31 Boulder Drive, Belmont, New Hampshire, and a bank account in NOE's name. DEA agents have seized vehicles and jewelry valued at over \$50,000.

Convictions and sentencings thus far as a result of the investigation are:

- **RANDALL NOE**, 37, of Belmont, NH, was convicted on November 30, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with conspiracy to distribute oxycodone and conspiracy to commit money laundering. He was ordered held without bail pending his March 14, 2006 sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.
- **LEONARD ANDERSON**, 66, of Opalocka, FL, was convicted on November 2, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with conspiracy to commit money laundering. He was ordered held without bail pending his February 2, 2006 sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.
- **JOSEPH SILVA**, 29, of Wakefield, MA, was convicted on October 19, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with possession with intent to distribute oxycodone. On February 24, 2006, he was sentenced to 42 months imprisonment, followed by a 3 year period of supervised release during which he will be subject to behavioral monitoring and supervision by the U.S. Probation Office.
- **STEPHEN ASSANTE**, 34, of Cranston, RI, was convicted on October 20, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with possession with intent to distribute oxycodone. On January 24, 2006, he was sentenced to 27 months imprisonment, followed by a 3 year period of supervised release during which he will be subject to behavioral monitoring and supervision by the U.S. Probation Office.
- **DENNIS "Mike" KAMINSKI**, 33, of Concord and Belmont, NH was convicted on November 29, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with conspiracy to

distribute oxycodone. He was released to the supervision of the U.S. Probation Office pending his March 22, 2006 sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.

- **STACEY MELLOR**, 30, of Belmont, NH, was convicted on October 31, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging her with conspiracy to distribute oxycodone and conspiracy to commit money laundering. On February 1, 2006, she was sentenced to 20 months imprisonment, followed by a 3 year period of supervised release during which she will be subject to behavioral monitoring and supervision by the U.S. Probation Office.
- **MICHAEL CUCCHIELLO**, 33, of Las Vegas, NV, was convicted on November 2, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with conspiracy to commit money laundering. He was ordered held without bail pending his February 2, 2006 sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.
- **STEPHEN LONG**, 43, of Lynn, MA, was convicted on October 14, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with conspiracy to distribute oxycodone. On January 6, 2006, he was sentenced to 3 years probation, during which he will be subject to behavioral monitoring and supervision by the U.S. Probation Office.
- **HAROLD MAYO**, 48, of Everett, MA, was convicted on October 20, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with possession with intent to distribute oxycodone. He was released to the supervision of the U.S. Probation Office pending his sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.
- **GERALD VALCOUR**, 59, of East Boston, MA, was convicted on November 29, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with possession with intent to distribute oxycodone. He was released to the supervision of the U.S. Probation Office pending his sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.
- **KEITH BELOLI**, 35, of Taunton, MA, was convicted on January 3, 2006, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with possession with intent to distribute oxycodone. He was released to the supervision of the U.S. Probation Office pending his sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment..
- **MITCHELL KRASCO**, 44, of Everett, MA was convicted on December 19, 2005, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with possession with intent to distribute oxycodone. He was ordered detained without bail pending his sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.
- **JAMES LONG** 43, of Lynn, MA, was convicted on January 13, 2006, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with conspiracy to distribute oxycodone. He was released to the supervision of the U.S. Probation Office pending his sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment..

- **JASON CALNAN**, 29, of Miami FL was convicted on January 24, 2006, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with possession with intent to distribute oxycodone. He was ordered detained without bail pending his sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.
- **RITA NOE**, 75, of Everett, MA, was convicted on January 26, 2006, after entering a guilty plea to an information charging her with conspiracy to commit money laundering. She was released to the supervision of the U.S. Probation Office pending her sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 10 years' imprisonment.
- **KIRK BELOLI**, 35, of Taunton, MA, was was convicted on January 26, 2006, after a guilty plea to an information charging him with conspiracy to distribute oxycodone. He was released to the supervision of the U.S. Probation Office pending his sentencing hearing. He faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment.

The investigation was conducted by DEA's Cross Border Initiative (CBI) Task Force, with assistance from the Internal Revenue Service and financial analysts from New England HIDTA's Investigative Support Center in Methuen, Massachusetts. The CBI Task Force is comprised of agents from the DEA and the FBI, officers from the Salem, NH Police Department, and officers in the following police departments in Massachusetts: Haverhill, Lowell, Wilmington, the Essex County Sheriff's Office, and the Massachusetts State Police. CBI was assisted by officers from the Belmont, NH Police Department and officers from the following Massachusetts Police Departments: Andover, Burlington, Concord, North Reading, North Woburn, Wakefield, Wellesley, and the Middlesex County Sheriff's Office.

The prosecution is being handled by First Assistant United States Attorney Joseph N. Laplante, the Lead Attorney for the District of New Hampshire in the New England Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force ("New England OCDETF"), and Assistant U. S. Attorney Rob Rabuck of the Civil Division's Asset Forfeiture Section.

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